

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Attorney Docket No.: SUGI0085
Keiichiro Oishi) Confirmation No. 8194
Serial No.: 09/983,029)
Filed: October 22, 2001) Group Art Unit: 1742
For: COPPER/ZINC ALLOYS HAVING) Examiner: Sikyin Ip
LOW LEVELS OF LEAD AND GOOD)
MACHINABILITY) Date: January 6, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, this Information Disclosure Statement in connection with the above-identified application is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits of, after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under §1.114.

A copy of each document listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB08B is attached (excluding copies of the U.S. references). For the Japanese patent references, a copy of the English abstract obtained from the Delphion search service is attached, if available. For the Japanese office actions, an English translation is attached.

Document A relates to a copper-based alloy for a heat exchanger. Document B relates to an exterior decorative part material for casting. Document C relates to corrosion-resistant brass. Document D relates to a brass alloy material for a heating device. Document E relates to a copper alloy with wear and corrosion resistance. Document F relates to the production of brass containing Al and P. Document G relates to an exterior decorative part material for

casting. Document H relates to workable metal copper alloy. Document I relates to the manufacture of copper alloy and copper alloy material for radiator plate. Document J relates to a brass alloy material for a heating device. Document K relates to a copper alloy having corrosion resistance. Document L relates to the manufacture of copper alloy and copper alloy material for radiator plate. Document M relates to a copper-based alloy for bearing with workability and seizure resistance. Their relevance is believed to be clear from Document AA, which is an Office Action issuing from the Japanese Patent Office on January 22, 2002 for Application No. H10-287921. Accordingly, no further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

Document AB is an Office Action issuing from the Japanese Patent Office on January 29, 2002 for Application No. H10-288590. This Office Action cites Documents A, B, C, D, E, F, and H. The relevance of this Office Action should be clear from the attached English translation.

Document N relates to a leadless free-cutting brass alloy. Document AD relates to a standard for copper-zinc-silicon alloy rod. Document AE relates to a standard for silicon red brass. Their relevance is believed to be clear from Document AC, which is an protest mailed from the Japanese Patent Office on January 15, 2002 for Application No. H10-288590. Accordingly, no further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

Document O relates to a brass alloy, manufacturing process, and use. Its relevance is believed to be clear from document AF, which is a Canadian Office Action mailed on August 27, 2004.

Document AH relates to silicon brass for lead-free faucets and fittings. Document P

relates to a brass alloy, manufacturing process, and use. Their relevance is believed to be clear from document AG, which is a European Office Action mailed on October 6, 2003.

Document Q relates to ingot pouring and injection-molding parts. Document R relates to a silicon brass resistant to parting corrosion. Document S relates to a copper alloy for chill and die casting. Document T relates to the manufacture of bearing metals. Document U relates to flow pressed parts. Their relevance is believed to be clear from document AI, a partial European Search Report dated Sept. 29, 2002.

Each of the above office actions or search reports issued in a co-assigned application of related subject matter. Since all of the documents cited herein were cited in an office action or search report, it is believed that the relevancy of each document cited is clear from the citing document. Accordingly, no further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited, and that copies of Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B be initialed by the Examiner and returned to the undersigned to indicate that the documents have been considered.

It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-8, but should the filing of this paper necessitate a fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the necessary fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1281.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC

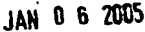


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Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	2	of	5
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Application Number	09/983,029
Filing Date	October 22, 2001
First Named Inventor	Keiichihiro Oishi
Art Unit	1742
Examiner Name	Ip, Sikiyin
Attorney Docket Number	SUGI0085

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	G	JP-56-96040	08-03-1981	Sekio Epson Corp.		
	H	JP-49-9296	01-26-1974	unknown		
	I	JP-3-68733	03-25-1991	Nippon Mining Co. Ltd.		
	J	JP-9-143598	06-03-1997	Chuetso Gokin Chuko KK		
	K	JP-62-297429	12-24-1987	Nippon Mining Co. Ltd.		
	L	JP-03-68732	03-25-1991	Nippon Mining Co. Ltd.		

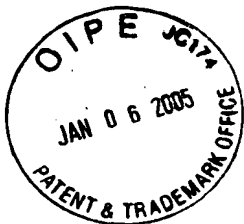
Date
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND**

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/983,029
Filing Date	October 22, 2001
First Named Inventor	Keiichiro Oishi
Art Unit	1742
Examiner Name	Ip, Sikyin
Attorney Docket Number	SUGI0085

Sheet 5 of 5

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	AA	Japanese Office Action for Application No. H10-287921, mailed January 22, 2002	✓
	AB	Japanese Office Action for Application No. H10-288590, mailed January 29, 2002	✓
	AC	Protest mailed from the Japanese Patent Office on January 15, 2002 for Application No. H10-288590	✓
	AD	Standard Specification for Copper-Zinc-Silicon Alloy Rod, Annual Book of ASTM Standards, 1993, pp. 536-538, Vol. 02.01: Copper and Copper Alloys.	
	AE	Copper Alloy No. C69400 (Silicon Red Brass), Standards Handbook, 1985, p. 143, 8th Edition, Copper Development Assn., New York.	
	AF	Canadian Office Action for Application No. 2,303,512, mailed on August 27, 2004.	
	AG	European Office Action for Application No. 98 953 070.4, mailed on October 6, 2003	
	AH	MANNHEIM, R. et al. "Silicon brass: an alternative for lead-free faucets and fittings." 1998. Second Annual Conference on Metallurgic and Materials Technology. Sao Paulo. STN Database No. 131.246354.	
	AI	Partial European Search Report for Application No. 98 95 3071, dated Sept. 23, 2002.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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